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Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 032567-002

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of ) **MAIL STOP RCE**  
Hiroshi SUMIYAMA et al. )  
Application No.: 09/238,163 ) **Group Art Unit: 2622**  
Filed: January 28, 1999 ) **Examiner: Joseph R. Pokrzywa**  
For: **IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS** ) **Confirmation No.: 6659**

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**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated September 5, 2003 and the Advisory Action dated December 29, 2003, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: